



*Bishop E. G. Richardson,
Atlanta, Georgia.*

Dec., 1925

Gulf Conference Methodist Episcopal Church

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OF THE

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OF THE

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OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HELD AT

LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA

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BISHOP E. G. RICHARDSON.....Presiding
Atlanta, Georgia

H. C. LEONARD.....Secretary
Houston, Texas

CONFERENCE CHRONOLOGICAL ROLL

Year	NAME	NATIVITY	Address
1920	Beck, P. W.	Missouri	Welsh, La.
1905	Blackstock, W. E.	Canada	San Antonio, Tex.
1923	Cassells, Delos	Mississippi	Gloster, Miss.
1906	Corbin, Bruce B.	New York	Lake Charles, La.
1918	Denney, J. S.	Missouri	Woodville, Tex.
1903	Elliott, Chas. L.	Ceylon	Jennings, La.
1910	Ensign, F. J.	Wisconsin	Kinder, La.
1910	Faulk, H. K.	Louisiana	Lake Charles, La.
1921	Gaskins, S. P.	Texas	Oklahoma City Coll
1891	Gower, L. E.	Illinois	Sebastian, Tex.
1911	Harper, G. L.	Mississippi	
1902	Leonard, H. C.	Ohio	Houston, Tex.
1898	Lively, J. W.	Arkansas	Marshall, Tex.
1880	Loy, F. W.	Illinois	Terra Haute, Ind.
1920	Mann, W. C.	Texas	Hallsville, Tex.
1922	Manning, S. J.	Missouri	San Juan, Tex.
1908	Pohl, H. H. E.	Illinois	Brownsville, R.F.D. 1
1923	Powell, E. A.	Illinois	Alvin, Tex.
1907	Pynes, R. T.	Alabama	Marshall, Tex.
1886	Robinson, C. R.	Michigan	Port Arthur, Tex.
1900	Rodgers, C. W.	Iowa	Welsh, La.
1892	Shrode, T. J.	Indiana	Lutcher, La.
1890	Stokes, W. T.	Alabama	Port Arthur, Tex.
1911	Swanson, R. G.	Texas	Flora, La.
1900	Van Valkenburgh, W. B.	Arkansas	Lake Charles, La.
1906	Ward, W. R.	Missouri	Port Arthur, Tex.
1905	Weldon, R. L.	Louisiana	DeQuincey, La.
1901	Yockey, S. H.	Pennsylvania	Lake Charles, La.

PROBATIONERS

Year	NAME	NATIVITY	Address
1925	Irvin, J. L.	Illinois	Loranger, La.
1922	Jongema, Henry	Holland	Garrett Bib. Inst.
1921	Jones, Daniel L.	Kansas	Garrett Bib. Inst.
1924	Carrington, Alton		Logansport, La. R. 4
1924	LaGrone, Daniel X.	Louisiana	Shreveport, La. R. 2, Bx. 335
1924	McLain, E.		Time, Tex.
1925	Potts, E. W.		Texas City, Mo.

THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION

The District Superintendents

The Pastors at Lake Charles, Jennings, DeQuincy, and Iowa.

Mrs. D. A. Kelly	H. C. Marshall	G. M. King
E. C. Willard	P. W. Kiplinger	R. L. Drake
Mrs. A. F. Graham		E. C. Newton

CONFERENCE COMMISSION ON FINANCE

The District Superintendents, ex-officio.

HOUSTON DISTRICT

A. E. Powell	A. B. Chenier	H. H. Jones
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LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT

Chas. L. Elliott	Mrs. W. W. Weber	E. C. Willard
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RIO GRANDE VALLEY DISTRICT

The Lyford Pastor	A. E. Sharrer	Mrs. E. F. Griffith
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CONFERENCE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

The District Superintendents ex-officio.

The District Missionary Secretaries.

The District Epworth League Presidents ex-officio.

HOUSTON DISTRICT

Wilbur Abbey	G. E. Carter
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LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT

J. D. Hayes	J. J. Mills
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RIO GRANDE VALLEY DISTRICT

Pastor at Lyford	A. E. Sharrer
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COMMITTEES

PUBLIC WORSHIP

Pastor and District Superintendent.

RESOLUTIONS

S. H. Yockey

H. C. Leonard

E. A. Powell

MEMOIRS

R. T. Pynes

W. T. Stokes

Percy W. Beck

EDUCATION

F. J. Ensign

C. R. Robinson

S. H. Yockey

R. L. Weldon

C. W. Rodgers

T. J. Shrode

R. T. Pynes

S. J. Manning

A. B. Chenier

H. K. Faulk

D. H. Cassells

J. S. Denny

STATE OF THE CHURCH

J. S. Denney

H. H. E. Pohl

R. L. Weldon

SOCIAL SERVICE

Alton Carrington

L. E. Gower

S. H. Yockey

EVANGELISM

R. L. Weldon

W. R. Ward

R. T. Pynes

H. H. E. Pohl

W. C. Mann

FOREIGN MISSIONS

W. T. Stokes

R. T. Pynes

H. K. Faulk

EPISCOPAL FUND

The District Superintendents.

CONFERENCE RELATIONS

L. E. Gower

F. J. Ensign

H. C. Leonard

R. L. Weldon

W. E. Blackstock

GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

R. T. Pynes	C. W. Rodgers	T. J. Shrode
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HOME MISSIONS

B. B. Corbin	H. C. Leonard	F. J. Ensign
A. Palmisano	Alton Carrington	

HOSPITALS, HOMES AND DEACONESS

S. H. Yockey	W. B. Hebert	W. C. Mann
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WORLD SERVICE COUNCIL

R. L. Weldon	H. G. Patterson	A. B. Chenier
S. J. Manning	H. C. Leonard	B. B. Corbin
B. P. Wynne	A. E. Sharrer	C. W. Rodgers
E. N. Potts	E. C. Willard	W. E. Blackstock
Mrs. Ella Briggie	D. X. LaGrone	

CONFERENCE TRUSTEES

As the charter of the Conference granted by the State of Louisiana allows the Conference to elect trustees to hold the funds raised for the Permanent Fund and by action of the Conference the Calcisue Bank of Lake Charles is the Trustee of this fund, the twenty-third session of the Conference elected trustees to hold all other funds and properties. These trustees are:

For One Year

H. K. Faulk	H. C. Leonard	C. W. Rodgers
C. R. Robinson, Pres.	C. E. Carter	S. O. Scoggins

For Three Years

L. E. Gower	E. W. Archer	B. B. Corbin, Treas.
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DISCIPLINARY QUESTIONS

1. Is this Annual Conference incorporated according to the requirements of the Discipline? It is in a limited way.
2. Who have been received by Transfer, and from what Conferences? P. W. Beck, Southwest Kansas; W. R. Ward, Kansas.
3. Who have been re-admitted? None.
4. Who have been received on credentials, and from what Churches? None.
5. Who have been received on trial? (a) In Studies of First Year: J. L. Irvin, E. W. Potts.
6. Who have been continued on trial? (a) In studies of First Year: E. McLain, Daniel L. Jones, Henry Jongema. (b) In studies of Second Year: Alton Carrington, Daniel X. LaGrone.
7. Who have been discontinued? None.
8. Who have been admitted in full membership? (a) Elected and ordained Deacons this year: P. W. Beck. (b) Elected and ordained Deacons previously: None.
9. What members are in the studies of Third Year? (a) Admitted into full membership this year: P. W. Beck. (b) Admitted into full membership previously: None.
10. What members are in studies of Fourth Year? S. P. Gaskins, J. S. Denny.
11. What members have completed the Conference Course of Study? (a) Elected and ordained Elders this year: None. (b) Elected and ordained Elders previously: None. (c) Elected and ordained Elders under the Seminary Rule: None.
12. What others have been elected and ordained Deacons? (a) As local preachers: None (b) Under Missionary Rule: None. (c) Under the Seminary Rule: None.
13. What others have been elected and ordained Elders? (a) As local Deacons: None. (b) Under the Missionary Rule: None.
14. Who have been left without appointment to attend one of our Schools? Daniel L. Jones, Henry Jongema, S. P. Gaskins.
15. Was the character of each preacher examined. It was as his name was called in open Conference.
16. Who have been transferred, and to what Conferences? J. W. Hervey, Northwest Kansas; L. V. Maund, Oklahoma; C. A. Perkins, Oklahoma; C. H. Ragsdale, Oklahoma.
17. Who have died? W. F. Hamner.
18. Who have been located at their own request? None.
19. Who have been located? None.
20. Who have withdrawn? A. M. Wynne, W. E. Harrison.
21. Who have been deprived of the Ministerial Office? None.
22. Who have been permitted to withdraw under charges or complaints? None.

23. Who have been expelled? None.
24. What other personal notation should be made? None.
25. Who are the Supernumerary Ministers, and for what number of years, consecutively, has each held this relation? None.
26. Who are the retired ministers? G. L. Harper, J. W. Lively, F. W. Loy, T. J. Shrode, S. H. Yockey, W. T. Stokes.
27. Who have been granted leave of absence? B. B. Corbin.
28. Who are the Triers of Appeals? R. L. Weldon, R. G. Swanson, H. C. Leonard, C. W. Rodgers, S. J. Manning. Reserves: L. E. Gower, R. T. Pynes.
29. What is the Annual Report of the Conference Board of Home Missions and Church Extension? See Report.
30. What is the Annual Report of the Conference Board of Foreign Missions? See Report.
31. What is the Statistical Report? See the Statistician's Report.
32. What is the Conference Treasurer's Report? See the Conference Treasurer's Report.
33. (a) What is the aggregate of the Benevolence Collections ordered by the General Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer? \$10,298. (b) What is the aggregate of the Benevolent Collections ordered by the Annual Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer? \$4,091.
34. What are the claims on the Conference funds? For Annuity Distribution, 180 years multiplied by the disciplinary rate of \$18.00 per year, \$3,240.00. For necessitous distribution, \$1,000.00. Total, \$4,240.00.
35. (a) What has been received on these claims? From the Book Concern, \$406.00; from Annual Conference investments, \$99.41; from the Chartered Fund, \$40.00; from Pastoral Charges, \$1,581.00; from Board of Pensions and Relief, \$800.00; from other sources, \$106.00. Total, \$3,234.61. (b) How has it been applied? (See Report of Stewards).
36. What amount has been apportioned to the Pastoral Charges within the Conference, to be raised for the support of Conference Claimants? \$3,050.00.
37. What amount has been paid by the Conference Treasurer to the Board of Conference Claimants for Connectional Relief?
.....
38. Is there a Conference Sustentation Fund Society, and what is its Report? None.
39. Where are the preachers stationed? (See List of Appointments).
40. Where shall the next Conference be held? Left to Cabinet with power.

GULF CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS, 1925 - 26

HOUSTON DISTRICT

C. R. Robinson, District Superintendent,
Port Arthur, Texas.

Charges	Pastor
Alvin.....	E. A. Powell
Houston, Collins Memorial.....	H. C. Leonard
Deadwood and Bethel.....	(J. S. Lanning)
Hughes Springs.....	(Carl Fromen)
Jefferson and Chapel Hill.....	(J. M. Baker)
La Porte.....	Left to be supplied
Lufkin.....	W. C. Mann
Marshall.....	R. T. Pynes
Noonday and Wesley.....	Left to be supplied
Polk Circuit.....	Supplied by J. S. Denney
Port Arthur.....	W. R. Ward
Rock Hill.....	Left to be supplied
Sabine Circuit (P. O. Time, Texas).....	E. McLean
South Houston.....	(Clifford T. Nunn)
San Antonio.....	W. E. Blackstock
Texas City.....	E. N. Potts
Woodville.....	J. S. Denney
Waterman Circuit.....	Alton Carrington

*Supplies in Parentheses).

LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT

Wm. B. Van Valkenburgh, District Superintendent,
1609 Wiencke St., Lake Charles, Louisiana

Charges	Pastor
Auburn and Gloster.....	Delos H. Cassells
Bayou Chene.....	(Mrs. Anne Fowler)
Elton and Raymond.....	(Luther Lyons)
DeQuincy.....	R. L. Weldon

LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT (continued)

Ebenezer and Basile.....	(W. C. Roberts)
Kinder and Iowa.....	F. J. Ensign
Jennings.....	Chas. L. Elliott
Lake Charles.....	Haughton K. Faulk
Loranger.....	J. L. Irvin
Lutcher.....	T. J. Shrode
New Orleans (First Italian).....	(A. Palmisano)
Weaver (P. O. Flora, La.).....	R. G. Swanson
Sweet Lake, Gueydon and Cameron (P. O. Bell City)	(Wm. B. Hebert)
Welsh.....	Percy W. Beck
Quitman.....	D. X. LaGrone

*Supplies in Parentheses).

RIO GRANDE VALLEY DISTRICT

	S. J. Manning, District Superintendent.	Pastor
Charges		
Alamo.....	To be supplied	
Lyford and Philagonia.....	To be supplied	
Rangerville and Sebastian.....	L. E. Gower	
Rio Hondo.....	To be supplied	
San Juan and South Point.....	S. J. Manning	
Point Isabel.....	H. H. E. Pohl	

SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS

L. E. Gower.....	District Evangelist
B. B. Corbin.....	Leave of Absence
S. P. Gaskins.....	Left without appointment to attend school
Henry Jongema.....	Left without appointment to attend school
Daniel L. Jones.....	Left without appointment to attend school
C. W. Rodgers.....	President of Evangeline College

Journal of Daily Proceedings

FIRST DAY

Wednesday, December 2nd, 1925.

The Twenty-third Session of the Gulf Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church convened Wednesday morning at nine o'clock in the Simpson Methodist Episcopal Church, Lake Charles, Louisiana, with Bishop E. G. Richardson of Atlanta Area presiding. Hymn No. 222, "Jesus! the name high over all" was sung. The Bishop led in prayer and addressed the Conference on II Cor. 8:9.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was then administered by the Bishop assisted by the District Superintendents and the pastor of the local church.

The secretary of the previous Conference called the roll and twenty-one answered to their names.

The following officers were elected: Secretary, H. C. Leonard; Assistant Secretaries, L. E. Gower and S. H. Yockey; Statistician, R. L. Weldon; Assistant Statisticians, F. J. Ensign, C. L. Elliott; Treasurer, C. W. Rodgers; Assistant Treasurers, W. R. Ward, D. X. LaGrone; Auditor, W. E. Blackstock; Assistants, H. K. Faulk, P. W. Beck; Conference Postmaster, R. T. Pynes.

The bar of the Conference was placed so as to include the four pews nearest the front in the three central sections.

The printed program was adopted as the official program of the Conference.

The Conference voted to convene at two o'clock to receive the Conference Reports.

Gifts made to "Evangeline" were ordered to be placed in item No. 7 of the reports.

Question two was called: "Who have been received by Transfer, and from what Conferences?" W. R. Ward, Kansas and P. W. Beck, Southwest Kansas.

Question Fifteen was called: "Was the character of each preacher examined?" It was in open Conference, and character of each was passed.

C. R. Robinson reported the Houston District, W. B. Van Valkenburgh reported the Lake Charles District, S. J. Manning reported the Rio Grande Valley District.

The preachers were asked to report on World Service, Conversions, Advocates and Heralds, and other items not to exceed three minutes.

The following from the Houston District reported: E. A. Powell, H. C. Leonard, D. X. LaGrone, W. T. Stokes, R. T. Pynes, W. C. Mann, W. E. Blackstock.

The following from the Lake Charles District reported: R. L. Weldon, C. L. Elliott, F. J. Ensign, H. K. Faulk, T. J. Shrode, A. Palmisano, Elton Lyons, and P. W. Beck.

The District Superintendents were requested to hand a complete list of men and of charges to the Auditor.

F. J. Ensign was continued as pro-rating secretary.

The following were introduced: Rev. R. H. Wynn, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; Rev. A. A. Leifeste, District Superintendent of the Brenham District, Southern Conference; Luther Lyons; Rev. Stephan B. Williams, pastor of the Protestant Methodist Church; and Rev. J. B. Crippen, St. John's River Conference, and representing Board of Home Missions and Church Extension.

After the announcements Conference adjourned to meet at 2 P. M. Benediction by T. J. Shrode.

Afternoon Session

Bishop E. G. Richardson called the Conference to order at 2 o'clock. L. E. Gower led in prayer.

The Bishop called the roll of the charges and reports were handed in from 28 charges; 17 failed to report—five

from the Houston District, and twelve from the Lake Charles District.

The Conference made the report of the Committee on Merger into the Southern Conference the order of the day at the Thursday morning session.

Rev. A. A. Leifeste, at the request of the Conference, addressed the Conference concerning the merger, reporting the favorable action of the Southern Conference.

W. B. Van Valkenburgh for the Cabinet nominated the following Committees all of which were approved by the Conference: (See Boards and Committees).

The Bishop appointed H. K. Faulk and W. R. Ward to the Board of Examiners.

The Bishop asked if any desired change of Conference relations. The case of W. T. Stokes was referred to the Committee on Conference Relations.

On motion of W. B. Van Valkenburgh the Bishop was requested to grant B. B. Corbin a year's leave of absence.

The Secretary was requested to prepare list of Committees and post the same.

Adjourned.

SECOND DAY

Bishop Richardson called the Conference to order at eight-thirty. Hymn No. 208, "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord", was sung. After prayer by A. Palmisano the Bishop spoke upon Phil. 1:3 and upon the general theme: "What Do Folks Think About You?"

The Journal of the previous sessions was read and approved.

Question Fifteen was resumed and the characters of the following were passed: Geo. W. Harper, J. W. Lively, F. W. Loy, T. J. Shrode and S. H. Yockey; all these being in the retired relation. Also these in special appointments:

W. E. Harrison, Henry Jongema, Daniel L. Jones and S. P. Gaskins.

The following reported: L. E. Gower, H. H. E. Pohl and S. J. Manning; J. L. Irvin, W. R. Ward, C. W. Rodgers, J. S. Denney, E. W. Potts and R. G. Swanson.

The Bishop called the attention of the Conference to the General Conference decisions relative to the claims of retired ministers not being allowed under certain conditions; that they were not inalienable but solely within the powers of the Conference to grant or withhold.

The Bishop read a letter from Rev. Claudius B. Spencer, editor of the Central Christian Advocate, stating regrets because unable to attend, and conveying greetings.

The Secretary read a telegram from Bishop E. L. Waldorf congratulating the Conference upon the presidency of Bishop E. G. Richardson, and conveying best wishes.

The Secretary was requested to make proper reply and with greetings from the Conference.

Question Thirty-five was asked: "What has been received on these claims?" (The claims on the Conference funds). W. B. Van Valkenburgh reported check from the invested fund amounting to \$99.41. The same was received and ordered to be placed with the treasurer of the Conference Board of Stewards.

Question Sixteen was called: "Who have been transferred, and to what Conference?" J. W. Hervey to the Northwest Kansas; L. V. Maund, C. A. Perkins and C. H. Ragsdale to the Oklahoma.

Question One was called: (a) "Is this Annual Conference incorporated according to the requirements of the Discipline?" It was answered: "Yes, in part." (b) "What officers and persons holding moneys, etc. are bonded, etc." On motion of C. W. Rodgers the Conference ordered that all who should be bonded be requested to give bond. It was also requested that a Committee be appointed by the Cabinet to determine persons to be bonded and the amounts. These were appointed on the above named committee: W. E. Blackstock, C. W. Rodgers and R. L. Weldon.

Question Twenty was called: "Who have withdrawn?" (a) From the Ministry: None. (b) From the Ministry and membership of the Church?" It was announced that A. M. Wynne had gone into the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. The Conference ordered that his credentials be properly endorsed and returned by the secretary to him.

Question Twenty-one was called: "Who have been deprived of the Ministerial office?" None.

Question Twenty-two was called: "Who have been permitted to withdraw under charges or complaints?" None.

Under Question Twenty-three: "Who have been expelled?" None.

The order of the day was called and the following report of the Committee on Merger was read and adopted unanimously:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MERGER.

Your Committee appointed a year ago to meet with a like committee representing the Southern Conference to work out plans for the merger of the two Conferences, met with such a committee from the Southern Conference, also a like committee from the So. Swedish Mission Conference. The committees organized into a "Joint Commission for Merger" with C. W. Rodgers as Chairman and Phil Deschner, Secretary. Three meetings were held—one in Brenham, Texas early in June, one in Austin the last week in June and one at Fort Worth with Bishop Waldorf in November.

These are the recommendations:

1st. As to Conference Pension endowments, it is recommended that each Conference place its Conference Claimant's funds with the Board of Pensions and Relief for the purpose of investment and application in behalf of the several groups who gathered this fund.

2nd. As to the Education Institution it is "recommended that the present educational institutions be left intact until such a time that the individual Conference groups at present concerned may petition otherwise." That two mem-

bers from each Conference be appointed to compose an Educational Commission to study the needs and possibilities, jointly or separately, of the various educational institutions and present their findings with recommendations to the merged Conference so as to carry on this phase of the Church's work in the most effective manner.

3rd. As to language groups: It is recommended that the language groups should be "sympathetically safe-guarded"; that a representative of each language group be in the Cabinet for some years to come.

We further recommend that this Conference, in obedience to the enabling act granted by the last General Conference and petitioned for by this Conference, do now adopt the recommendations and approve the merger and that the place of meeting next session be left to a committee consisting of the Cabinets of the Conferences approving the merger.

H. C. LEONARD, Chairman,
C. W. RODGERS,
C. R. ROBINSON,
R. T. PYNES,
T. J. SHRODE.

In compliance with the request of the report, C. W. Rodgers and H. C. Leonard were appointed as the two members from this Conference on the Educational Committee.

Question Forty was called: "Where shall the next Conference be held?" It was left to the Cabinet with power.

W. C. Hanson, D. D., representing the Methodist Book Concern, was introduced and addressed the Conference concerning the Book Concern and books. He presented a check from the Book Concern for \$608.00 and a check from the Chartered Fund for \$40.00. These were accepted and ordered placed with the treasurer of the Conference Board of Stewards.

On motion of W. B. Van Valkenburgh, the Conference adopted as its goal one Advocate for each ten members.

The Bishop announced that the Episcopal Fund apportionment for next year was $1\frac{1}{4}\%$. The same was accepted

and the District Superintendents were asked to apportion it to the charges.

A motion prevailed that the two constitutional changes be considered at this time.

The one known as the "Plan of Unification of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South," Paragraph 613, Discipline 1924, was presented and was adopted by a vote of 19 for and none against.

The one known as "Laymen in Annual Conferences," Paragraph 614, Discipline 1924, was presented and received a vote of 11 for and 9 against.

The reports of the Educational Institutions was made the order of the day for Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.

Question Thirty-eight was called: "Is there a Conference Sustentation Fund Society, and what is its report?" No.

Question Thirty-seven was called: "What amount has been paid by the Conference Treasurer to the Board of Pensions and Relief for Connectional Fund?" None required.

Question Twenty-eight was called: "Who are the Triers of Appeals?" R. L. Weldon, R. G. Swanson, H. C. Leonard, C. W. Rodgers and S. J. Manning. Reserves: L. E. Gower and R. T. Pynes.

The Conference ordered that the report of the Conference Board of Home Missions and Church Extension be made to the Conference and printed in the Journal.

Question Twenty-nine was called: "What is the Annual Report of the Conference Board of Home Missions and Church Extension?" See Reports.

Question Thirty was called: "What is the Annual Report of the Conference Board of Foreign Missions?" No report.

Question Seven was called: "Who have been discontinued?" None.

The following were introduced: E. W. Potts, Thomas Nunn, and Mrs. Beville and Mrs. Nardlan of the Methodist Protestant Church, and Miss Grace Bilcox, Field Secretary of the W. H. M. S.

Adjourned with benediction by W. T. Stokes.

THIRD DAY

Friday morning, December 4th, 1925.

Bishop E. G. Richardson called the Conference to order at eight-thirty. Hymn 415, "Faith of Our Fathers", was sung. T. J. Shrode led in prayer. Then Hymn 411, "O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee." After the hymn the Bishop talked from Phil. 1:9, "And this I pray." After the singing of another hymn the Journal of the last session was read and approved.

W. B. Hebert made his report.

Question Twenty was called: "Who have withdrawn?" (a) From the Ministry and membership of the Church?" A letter from W. E. Harrison stated that he had united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

On motion the Committee on Merger of Conferences was continued to work out any plans necessary to further the merger.

The Conference allowed the traveling expenses, including clergy fare only, to be placed in the pool of Conference traveling expenses.

The Bishop formally announced that he approved the action of the Conference to merge with the Southern Conference.

A telegram from the Southern Swedish Mission Conference stated that the merger was adopted unanimously.

The Conference Treasurer was authorized to accept duplicate vouchers if the originals were lost.

Question Twenty-six: "Who are the Retired Ministers?" By the recommendation of the Board of Conference Relations and on separate motion and action on each name, the following were continued in the retired relation: G. L. Harper, J. W. Lively, F. W. Loy and T. J. Shrode. Upon his own request and on recommendation of the Board of Conference Relations, W. T. Stokes was granted the retired relation.

Question Six: "Who have been continued on trial?" was called. By order of the Conference, Alton Carrington was

continued on trial and advanced to the studies of the second year on condition that written work he brought up.

The Conference ordered E. McLain to be continued on trial in the studies of the first year.

The Conference ordered that Daniel X. LaGrone be continued on trial and be advanced to the studies of the second year on condition that written work be brought up.

The Conference ordered that Daniel L. Jones and Henry Jongema be continued on trial and in the studies of the first year.

Question Ten was called: "What members are in studies of Fourth Year?" The Conference ordered that J. S. Denney and S. P. Gaskins be continued in the studies of the fourth year.

Question Fourteen was called: "Who have been left without appointment to attend school?" The Conference requested the Bishop to leave S. P. Gaskins, Henry Jongema and Daniel L. Jones without appointment to attend school.

Question Eight was called: "Who have been admitted into full membership? (a) Elected and Ordained Deacons this year", and

Question Nine: "What members are in the studies of Third Year?" Upon recommendation of the Board of Conference Relations, the Conference ordered P. W. Beck, after having answered the required questions, be admitted to membership and elected to Deacons' orders and placed in the studies of the Third Year.

Question Five was called: "Who have been received on trial?" Upon the recommendation of the Board of Conference Relations, J. L. Irvin and E. W. Potts were received on trial and placed in the studies of the first year.

Rev. Bert E. Smith, D. D., of the Board of Education, was introduced and addressed the Conference on the subject of Child Training and Education.

At this time Bishop Richardson called P. W. Beck to appear before the Conference and he was addressed by the Bishop concerning the duties and privileges of a minister in Methodist Episcopal Church and after having given satis-

factory answers to the Disciplinary questions was voted into and received into the Conference.

W. B. Van Valkenburgh presented the following Cabinet nominations to the Conference Boards. The same were confirmed. He also presented nominations to the Board of Conference Stewards, and the same were elected. (See Boards).

The Conference fixed one-half of one per cent of total cash pastoral support as the sum each should give to finance the office of the secretary and publish the journal.

The Conference ordered that the printed journal be made the official journal.

The secretary was also given authority to edit the journal.

Question Twelve was called: "What others have been elected and ordained Deacons?" None.

Question Seven was called: "Who have been discontinued?" None.

Question Eleven was called: "What members have completed the Conference course of study?" None.

Question Thirteen was called: "What others have been elected and ordained elders?" None.

Question Eighteen was called: "Who have been located at their own request?" None.

Question Nineteen was called: "Who have been located?" None.

Question Twenty-four was called: "What other personal notation should be made?" None.

Question Twenty-five was called: "Who are the Supernumerary Ministers, etc.?" None.

Question Thirty-two was called: "What is the Conference Treasurer's report?" Same was read by C. W. Rodgers and was adopted. Its reading gave evidence of increase in giving. (See Report).

The Conference authorized the payment to the Book Concern of any claim against a retired minister by the Treasurer of the Conference Board of Stewards.

Subscriptions to the Journal Fund were taken at this time.

The following were introduced: Rev. A. J. Martin, Methodist Church, South; Miss Winnie Gabrielson, Missionary from India; Rev. C. M. Hollet of West Ohio Conference, and Rev. M. G. Coleman, Illinois Conference.

Adjourned with benediction by Dr. Smith.

Afternoon Session

Friday, December 4th, 1925.

Conference convened at 2 o'clock, Bishop E. G. Richardson presiding. Hymn 106 was sung, and after prayer by S. J. Manning, Rev. B. M. Powell, D. D., representing the Board of Pensions and Relief, presented the new plan of Pensions and Relief.

The Conference took the following action:

First. It approved in principle the new Pension Fund plan now being worked out by the Board of Pensions and Relief and authorized by the last General Conference;

Second. It ordered that a Commission be appointed to have in mind an increase of the endowment fund of the Conference with an eye to working the plan when it goes into effect, this Commission to be composed of five men, but in case the other Conferences to the merger have but three, then the three first named shall be the Commission.

Dr. Powell presented a check for \$800. from the Board of Pensions and Relief and the same was accepted and ordered placed with the Treasurer of the Board of Conference Stewards.

Adjourned.

FOURTH DAY

Bishop Richardson called the Conference to order at 8:30. Hymn 495, "From Every Stormy Wind" was sung; prayer by J. L. Irvin. The Bishop brought his message from Phil. 3:3, "St. Paul's Definition of True Christianity" and closed with prayer.

Journal of previous day read and approved.

Question Thirty-one was called: "What is the Statistical report?" (See the Statistician's Report). The report was read by C. L. Elliott. The same was adopted.

The Conference ordered that a Committee consisting of the treasurer, statistician, secretary and district superintendents, harmonize and correct the reports of the treasurer and statistician before printing.

The report of the Conference Board of Stewards was read by L. E. Gower. The same was adopted.

Question Thirty-six was called: "What amount has been apportioned to the Pastoral Charges within the Conference, to be raised for the support of Conference Claimants?" Conference ordered \$2700. to be raised and authorized the district superintendents to apportion that sum to the charges.

The following officers were elected for next year: Treasurer, W. R. Ward; Statistician, C. L. Elliott.

The Cabinet nominated the following committee to have charge of the Invested funds: L. E. Gower, H. C. Leonard, C. W. Rodgers, and if five should be appointed by merging Conferences also W. E. Blackstock and H. K. Faulk.

Question Twenty-nine was called: "What is the annual report of the Conference Board of Home Missions and Church Extension?" (See report). Same was read by H. K. Faulk and accepted by the Conference.

The order of the day having arrived, C. W. Rodgers read the report of the "Evangeline College" and the same was accepted.

C. W. Rodgers nominated the following trustees for "Evangeline College":

For One Year: Bishop Ernest Lynn Waldorf, Rev. F. J. Ensign, H. G. Patterson, Geo. M. King, John R. Thistlethwaite.

For Two Years: Rev. C. B. Spencer, Rev. H. K. Faulk, S. O. Scoggins, F. G. Seward, Rev. P. W. Beck, Leon Haas.

For Three Years: Rev. R. L. Weldon, Rev. W. B. Herbert, Mrs. E. C. Willard, Adam Brunet, John W. Lewis, Walton McCain.

The Conference approved and elected as trustees the above named nominations.

The Conference authorized the Conference Board of Trustees to sell or dispose of the Crowley property according to their judgment and to execute the legal papers necessary.

The secretary was authorized to cast ballot for trustees of the Conference to serve for three years: M. E. Kent, A. E. Sharrer and R. L. Weldon. He so cast it.

W. E. Blackstock made the Auditor's report, having audited the accounts of the treasurer of the W. H. M. S., W. F. M. S., Conference Treasurer and Conference Secretary and treasurer of Conference Board of Home Missions and Church Extension. Adopted.

Conference requested the Board of Trustees to report sources of the money in the Permanent Fund.

The Conference declared its judgment to be that the pews in the Elton Church received from the Crowley Church were the property of the Elton Church.

W. R. Ward read report of Committee on Evangelism. Adopted.

The Conference ordered the trustees to arrange for the transfer of the Conference Invested Funds to the Board of Pensions and Relief at Chicago, the same to be placed to the credit of the members of the Gulf Conference.

C. R. Robinson read the report for Port Arthur College. The same was accepted and the following trustees were confirmed to serve for a period of three years: Dr. A. W. Harris, A. Goldberg, H. Walton, H. Henderson, W. E. Blackstock, G. H. Eubank and P. LaGrone.

The Conference ordered a visiting committee for Port Arthur College to be appointed by the Cabinet.

F. J. Ensign read the report of the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension. Adopted. (See report).

W. C. Mann read report of Committee on Hospitals and Homes. Adopted. (See report).

H. H. E. Pohl read report of Committee on State of the Church. Adopted. (See report).

Authorized the Committee on World Service to furnish report for the Journal.

Rev. L. E. Lovejoy, D. D., Department of Stewardship of the Commission on World Service, was introduced and addressed the Conference.

Conference authorized all reports to be handed to the secretary and by him edited.

The Conference renewed its request of a year ago regarding the trustees reporting on the funds resulting from the sale of abandoned property and on abandoned properties.

The journal of this session was read and approved.
Adjourned with benediction by L. E. Lovejoy.

Sunday, December 6, 1925

At ten Sunday morning the Conference Love Feast was conducted by R. L. Weldon.

The Bishop preached with power from the text 2 Cor. 3:3-4 at the eleven o'clock service.

In the afternoon memorial services were held honoring W. F. Hamner. L. E. Gower presided. W. E. Blackstock delivered a message on immortality.

At the night service after an address by Rev. Howard A. Musser, missionary from India, Bishop Richardson called the Conference to order. Percy W. Beck was presented

to be ordained a Deacon. Here follows the certificate of ordination:

"I hereby certify that I have this day ordained
Percy W. Beck a Deacon."

E. G. Richardson.

Conference requested the Bishop to appoint C. W. Rodgers to the presidency of Evangeline College.

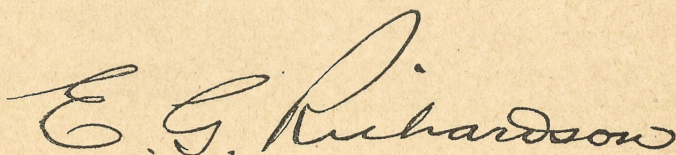
The following were appointed visitors to Port Arthur College: H. C. Leonard, R. T. Pynes and H. K. Faulk.

A motion prevailed that after the reading of the appointments the Conference stand adjourned sine die.

E. A. Powell read the Resolutions and the same were approved by a standing vote.

After prayer Bishop Richardson read the appointments. (See Appointments).

And so by its previous action the Conference stood adjourned.



President.

I hereby certify that I have carefully read the journal and do print the same as it was approved and do declare this to be a true record of the daily proceedings.

H. C. LEONARD, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF DISTRICTS

HOUSTON DISTRICT.

C. R. ROBINSON, *District Superintendent.*

First. I desire to express my gratitude that there has been no serious illness among the preachers and their families except that the superintendent and his wife passed through a siege of the Flu. It could be easily demonstrated that people buying climate and water in Florida would improve their condition by investing in real estate and health anywhere in Houston district. As a health resort East Texas is first class.

There have been more changes among pastors than usual but as all sought increased salaries and found them, the changes were warranted. It is much to the credit of Gulf Conference that those coming to us are soon polished for service higher up.

Brother C. H. Ragsdale, appointed to Texas City early in the year, developed a yearning for the high winds and sand storms of Oklahoma from whence he had come, and returned to his old Conference.

D. M. Rice left Polk Circuit to enter the Apostolic Movement.

Brother C. A. Perkins of LaPorte, after a year of successful work transferred to Oklahoma.

Brother L. V. Maund of Bethel and Deadwood charge also transferred to Oklahoma. While a charge is always disturbed by change of pastor during the year I am glad to report that only one of the charges affected was without services and that one for only one Sunday.

Brother E. M. Potts of Oklahoma succeeded to Texas City charge and though it was his first pastorate he wrought well and is invited by his people to return for another year.

Both for money raised and increased attendance the charge excels its past record.

Brother J. A. Lanning, a local preacher, took Bethel and Deadwood charge and in the short time he served it has

succeeded in raising benevolences and organizing three leagues. A fine record for a month's work.

Brother J. S. Denney of the Woodville charge took over Polk Circuit and Brother J. M. Bennington of South Houston cared for LaPorte.

It would add much to the continuity of our work if some way could be devised that would make it necessary for a pastor leaving a charge during the year to prepare a report for the time he has served.

IMPROVEMENTS.

In spite of the drouth and foot and mouth disease, worth while improvements are to be noted.

The church at Woodville has been renovated inside and out.

The parsonage at Port Arthur was repapered ready to receive the new pastor and his family.

The parsonage at Alvin received a renewal inside.

Several church debts have been paid. A debt of years' standing has been cancelled at Marshall.

Bethel parsonage has been freed from a debt incurred in building.

San Antonio has refunded its debt and reduced the principal.

The best debt paying was at Port Arthur, where a most persistent debt incurred in building was paid and the unusual thing was done of paying in full the salary deficit of the last two pastors, amounting to \$600. This is an example that might well be emulated by other charges.

The most enthusiastic money raising campaign was that at Collins Memorial, Houston, which started a sinking fund for a new church building that is badly needed if we are to conserve the work of years.

A new church is under construction at Hopewell, a new point on the Bethel and Deadwood charge. This was the result of a revival held by Brother Maund. This revival has resulted in forming a congregation, organizing two leagues and building this church. With the exception of

this revival and others held by the pastor on the charge no notable revivals have been held in the district, although nearly every charge held special meetings. Helpful union revivals were held at Alvin and Marshall.

Indeed so meager are the results from special meetings that it would seem that other means must be added to get the necessary results. We are not helpless when revival fires will not burn. For instance, the Jews never solicit members, yet so careful are they in their family and church training of children that there were never as many Jews as at present.

There are some signs of advancement along the line of training for church membership that deserve mention, and I had arranged for a stereoptican exhibit of these but the failure of some promised to arrive makes it necessary to use another method, so with your permission I will ask the pastors who have methods that I know have brought results to briefly explain them. Blackstock's Band, Potts' Boys' Aid, Pynes' Win My Chum Week, Bennington's Pageants.

Port Arthur College has had a year of great prosperity. While conditions for growth have not been favorable, the growth has been steady and healthy. Some changes have been made that have had marked effect. Using the dormitory for girls alone and fixing a high school education as the standard of admission are among those adopted. You are referred to the report of the President for further information.

The Epworth League Institute held at LaPorte was embarrassingly successful. The union with us of the Lake Charles District and Southern Conference swelled the attendance far beyond other years. Steps must be taken to utilize the possibilities of this movement.

The Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Societies have both been active and show increased interest as well as offerings.

Where the machinery of the Church has been utilized, there has been invariably an increase in receipts for World Service. The pity is that any of our pastors will persist in refusing the help offered.

RIO GRANDE VALLEY DISTRICT.

To Bishop Richardson, and the Members of the Gulf Conference:

I am glad to bring greetings from the Magic Valley, the home of the grape fruit, and a land that flows with milk and honey. By the help of the Lord, we will possess the land.

Rich blessings upon my predecessor, Dr. L. E. Gower, that man of God, who did such faithful work in the Valley against such "pronounced" difficulties, God only, can reward him for his labors.

Changes: There has been only one change during the year. Rev. E. McLain said that the altitude was too low for Mrs. McLain's health. He moved to Lone Wolf, Fort Worth district. The work has been cared for by local men.

Death: Mrs. W. F. Hamner was, very unexpectedly, Aug. 23rd, 1925, called upon to give up Dr. Hamner. He preached that Sunday morning and passed away that evening, about 8 o'clock. Dr. Hamner joined the Gulf Conference in 1922. Mrs. Hamner has moved to San Antonio for the present.

Property: San Juan purchased a modern parsonage at a cost of \$2500.00. They are paying for it at the rate of \$25.00 per month. Lyford installed electric lights in the parsonage, and in the place of worship. There has been a permanent forward step along these lines.

Evangelism: Dr. L. E. Gower, the District Evangelist, has conducted several revival meetings, which has been a real uplift to the District, and made possible some organizations that could not have been made otherwise.

There has been a substantial gain in membership in the district. The World Service report will be in full by some of the charges, but not all. We have not made the advance that we would like to have made. There will be an increase in ministerial support for 1925-26. There will also be an increase in World Service collections.

Respectfully,

S. J. MANNING, *District Supt.*

LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT.

This report will be for only six months of this conference year and obviously will be more or less incomplete.

It was on June 2nd while at the Commencement exercises of the Evangeline Preparatory School, in Basile, La., that word reached me that Bishop Waldorf had appointed me to take charge of the Lake Charles district as District Superintendent.

The most outstanding victory in the history of the Gulf Conference was that accomplished this summer during the months of June and July. This phenomenal victory was in no sense the result of any one, single man, although much credit should be given to Dr. Louis M. Potts, the director of the campaign for his wise guidance, but the full credit will not be justly dispensed until every humble worker, some in remote and hard places, is awarded his due mead of praise for large self-sacrificing giving and courageous campaigning. Every available prospect was canvassed. The goal of the campaign was set for \$45,000.00. At the final banquet at the Majestic, the announcement was made of \$30,000.00 pledged for the building, \$20,000.00 more as endowment and an urgent invitation from the Chamber of Commerce of Opelousas to remove the school from Basile to that place, with a pledge of \$20,000.00 and a ten acre site for the new buildings. This offer was accepted and the school has gone forward in temporary leased quarters. In time, this school will prove a valuable link in tying up our young people of this section to the Kansas City University, so auspiciously begun by our resident Bishop Waldorf.

This campaign has made some new alignments and readjustments necessary. The present incumbent was relieved of a small charge and assistant to the president of Evangeline Preparatory School and assigned to the Lake Charles District. Dr. C. W. Rodgers was relieved of his work at Welsh where he had only recently come and where splendid success was attending his ministry, and given the

presidency of Evangeline College in its new field. Dr. James W. Hervey, after three years of self-sacrificing labor at Basile was transferred out of the Conference, after twenty-three years of ministerial labors here and given a fine station charge at Colby, Kansas.

No one unacquainted with the work of the Lake Charles district can form an adequate idea of the topograph of the country to be traversed, nor of the nature of charges, nor the diverse human elements constituting the fellowships of each charge.

The men in the district have given me a most loyal and hearty support. I have specialized where it seemed profitable, the third quarterly rounds were given up largely to emphasizing the growing needs of our world service commission to adequately meet the pressing calls from all parts of our world wide kingdom building enterprises. The askings for these causes were laid upon the consciences of the churches and pledges secured from each quarterly conference. These pledges soon mounted up until we had secured subscriptions totaling more than a thousand dollars in excess of that paid for this cause last year. The real problem now is to secure the redeeming of all pledges at face value.

The work of the district is exacting, as one cannot make the rounds without periods of absence from home of from ten to fifteen days, traveling in some instances as much as six hours and thirty-five miles entirely by water. These long trips necessitate hardships that are unknown along the great highways of travel.

The district needs and would heartily respond to a sane evangelistic campaign.

THE CHARGES.

Johnson's Chapel has been supplied from August most successfully by Bro. Delos H. Cassells and they are asking for his return for another year.

Bayou Chene is one of the outposts of civilization. They are most inaccessible. Some years ago Bro. Nelson after serving that work for a number of years passed to his reward, leaving a legacy of \$500.00 to this charge and they

now contemplate erecting a tabernacle which when built and screened in, will very materially add to the usefulness and efficiency of that work. For years that estimable lady, Mrs. Annie Fowler, has been local preacher, Sunday School Superintendent and spiritual adviser to the people. She has no aspiring rivals who seek her office.

Indian Village is on Bayou Plaquemine and is reached only by water or bus line. Here in a French Roman Catholic community the pure gospel is dispensed to a goodly few: Bro. Cassels is the heroic messenger who dares to cross the Mississippi river twice each visit and travel like Jason Noel to this needy field twelve times annually. His return is requested.

Gloster is the home of Bro. Delos H. Cassells and here he is not a prophet without honor; to the contrary he is honored and beloved by all who know him. Here last May fire destroyed both the church and parsonage. The village has been honored by a session of this Conference presided over by the lamented Henry H. Spellmeyer. The members hope to rebuild and although only \$600.00 insurance was realized, they have set their faces toward the sun rise. A liberal donation from our Church Extension Society placed here would be most opportune.

The New Orleans Immanuel Church, 610 Esplanade Ave., New Orleans, La., is doing splendid work in the down town district of that old city. The church building is a small Gothic stone building, erected during the administration of Bishop Wilbur P. Thirkield. The present pastor, Rev. Antonio Palmisano, is a man thoroughly consecrated to his task and one who believes in the mission of the Methodist Church in her ministry to *his* people. Mr. Clifford Danna, the director of Religious Education, has a large hold on the Italian boys of the community. In the settlement house of the Woman's Missionary Society the boys have club rooms and a gymnasium combined. Mrs. Sabatore Palmisano is a young woman of Kansas thoroughly versed in child training and kindergarten work, a Yankee girl, mar-

ried to the son of the preacher, she is doing a fine work with the girls of the community.

Lutcher is a mill town on the Mississippi river, thirty miles south of Baton Rouge, supplied by Bro. T. J. Shrode. Here people come to hear a good sermon and a fine exegesis of some scriptural text from Sunday to Sunday. With Bro. Shrode in the pulpit one could not wish for a finer presentation of the gospel message. Bro. Shrode writes: "Our campaign for associate members resulted in securing sixty names and there are a few yet to be seen. That gives us a working force now of seventy-two adults, against twenty-two before."

Needless to say all apportionments are met in full. Bro. Shrode has builded well and is much beloved by all. His return for another year is unanimously requested.

Shamrock and Weaver represent another mill town where the members and community are all laboring people and depend for a livelihood upon the wages paid in the lumber industry. Bro. R. G. Swanson has labored well in this field. There will be some delegates attending Conference to see that their present pastor is returned.

At *Loranger* we have one of the finest community church buildings to be seen anywhere in the state. It is adequate in all respects and fully meets the demands. The fourth quarterly conference unanimously asked for the return of Bro. Irvin for another year.

Sweet Lake has located around it a large rice farming community and they are badly in need of a church house. Some suitable recognition by the Board of Church Extension would be greatly appreciated. The Lake Charles district is sadly in need of a district parsonage. The District Superintendent is left like a wandering star. The people of Sweet Lake recognizing the need raised sixty dollars towards the purchasing of furniture for a district parsonage.

Gwydan has a good church building which has recently undergone needed repairs and is soon to have a new coat

of paint on the exterior. An additional piece of ground will be purchased this year to save over crowding the church building. All apportionments are met in full and they have asked for the return of the pastor, Rev. Wm. Hebert for another year.

Ebenezer lies ten miles south of Crowley in the center of the rice belt district. They have a good country church building kept in fine repair by the Ladies Aid Society. They also have a very comfortable parsonage which they wish occupied by a pastor for another year.

Basile is in the midst of the French speaking population of Louisiana in Evangeline Parish and for five years was the seat of our Evangeline Preparatory School. By the removal of the school from the locality the church has suffered a relapse. They are asking for the best man in the Conference at the lowest salary possible.

Elton was supplied by Bro. Harold Sharp from July to September. Rev. Luther Lyons, a young local preacher from DeQuincy has since moved into the parsonage and is giving satisfactory service. The people have unanimously asked for his return for another year.

Kinder and *Iowa* are two growing villages both aspiring to become cities in the rice belt district. At Iowa Bro. A. K. Davis is depositing in the Calcasieu National Bank, dollar for dollar up to \$1000.00 to build the new church building and to thus meet the needs of that growing community church. Under the fine leadership of Bro. C. L. Elliott, Iowa has reached first place in proportionate world service giving. The congregation here has unanimously requested a return of their pastor for another year.

Jennings is the county seat of Jefferson Davis Parish and was for many years one of the two leading appointments of the Gulf Conference. For the last three years Bro. F. J. Ensign, a steady plodder and faithful pastor, has served this people. He deserves better work at the hands of the Gulf Conference. \$296.00 improvements brightened the parsonage with a coat of paint.

Quitman is a small village town on the Rock Island Railway in North Louisiana, twelve miles south of Ruston. We have here a beautiful new church built under the superintendency of Rev. F. W. Loy. The laymen are contemplating building a parsonage on the two vacant lots next to the church for which four thousand feet of lumber have already been donated by the Davis Brothers of Ruston. A man willing to sacrifice and attempt the building up of a new work in this territory is badly needed for this place. Our Board of Home Missions and Church Extension have tentatively appropriated a sum large enough to finish the house.

DeQuincy is a growing town on the Gulf Coast Railway. It has a bright future ahead. Many new brick buildings have been erected in the business section during this past year. They have good schools and it is a fine community. The pastor, Rev. R. L. Weldon, held a good meeting during the month of August. The finances will be well in hand and they are asking for the return of their pastor at an increase of several hundred dollars.

Simpson Methodist Church at Lake Charles has stood the battle shock for years. A band of loyal consecrated members and faithful pastor, they are now looking forward to larger things. A Brotherhood meets monthly in the church parlors, in which civic and social questions are discussed by capable speakers. During the summer months a fine daily vacation Bible school was conducted. The fourth Quarterly Conference has unanimously requested the return of the pastor.

Welsh. Rev. C. W. Rodgers came at Conference and remained until after the removal of the school, Evangeline College, to Opelousas. Rev. Percy W. Beck came the last of September and has captured the hearts of the people. His genial and brotherly approach made it possible to build wiser than he knew. A thirteen thousand dollar debt was still unpaid on the community house and Bro. Beck and wife invited the members of the Official Board to a dinner in the parsonage and so splendidly did the menu appeal to all present that they at once adopted an aggressive money raising campaign. I am told the next day they raised in cash and bank collateral \$7,000.00.

W. B. VAN VALKENBURGH, *District Supt.*

REPORTS

WORLD SERVICE.

The Conference rejoices in the fact that our World Service funds are larger than last year. We recommend:

1. That we pay close attention to the suggestions in the Discipline regarding World Service.

2. That each pastor faithfully present World Service from the pulpit.

3. That we faithfully present the duty and joy of Christian stewardship of life and property.

4. That we get World Service news as far as possible into the homes of our people.

5. That we use all available literature on World Service and Stewardship.

6. That funds be forwarded monthly to O. W. Auman, 740 Rush St., Chicago, Ill.

R. L. WELDON, *Chairman.*

MRS. E. BRIGGLE, *Secretary.*

HOSPITALS AND HOMES.

In the passing of the years we note with pleasure that our great church is keeping pace with the needs of these great institutions: Hospitals, caring for the suffering and afflicted, many times without money, and without price; Homes for the old and feeble who need them. We recommend that all our churches give these institutions their hearty support and sympathy.

S. H. YOCKEY.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

The books of the W. H. M. Society have been audited and found to be correct.

The books of the W. F. M. Society have been audited and found to be correct.

The books of the Conference Secretary have been audited and found to be correct.

The books of the Conference Treasurer of Home Missionary Funds have been audited and found to be correct.

The books of the Treasurer of the Conference Claimants have not been submitted to the Auditing Committee.

The books of the Conference Treasurer have not been submitted to the Auditing Committee.

W. E. BLACKSTOCK, *Chairman*.

HAUGHTON K. FAULK.

PERCY W. BECK.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EVANGELISM.

The work of evangelism is the most important in the church. We need to keep the revival fires burning in our hearts and churches continually.

We realize that conversion is only the definite beginning of the work of character building.

We therefore urge that we all—people and preachers alike—strive to *go on* to perfection.

Realizing that reformation is needed only when the formation of character has not been attended to, we urge the conservation and proper development of the spiritual life of the child. God expects us to accept a responsibility as well as to enjoy an experience.

We further recommend that the pastor faithfully carry out the disciplinary provisions concerning the instruction of baptized children and all other preparatory members. Also that the constituency roll be carefully kept and enlarged and that Decision Day in the Sunday School and Win-My-Chum Week in the Epworth League, and all other proper means, be used, so that a continuous campaign of evangelism will be conducted among those naturally most susceptible to the Gospel message.

R. L. WELDON, *Chairman*.

RUSSELL T. PYNES.

H. H. E. POHL,

W. R. WARD.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We, the Committee on Foreign Missions, recommend: First, that each pastor get into the hands of his constituency as much good literature on foreign missions as possible for him so to do and of such a type as will be best suited to his special surroundings; and we further recommend that he prepare a discourse to be delivered at some time during the year. It is very important that there be a committee on foreign missions in the early part of the year put into action looking to the securing of funds, the minimum to be no less than the amount asked for. We recommend that the Missionary News be placed in the homes of as many as may be possible and that the Sunday School be organized into missionary societies and they be systematically instructed on foreign missions during the year.

BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION.

HOUSTON DISTRICT.

Funds received from Philadelphia office.....	\$3105.00	
Refund from C. A. Perkins, LaPorte, 1 month.....	11.67	
		<u>\$3116.67</u>

Expended as follows:

Dist. Supt.—C. R. Robinson.....	\$670.00	
Polk Circuit—D. M. Rice.....	\$120.00	
J. S. Denney	40.00	160.00
		<u> </u>
Rock Hill—Alton Carrington.....	100.00	
San Antonio—W. E. Blackstock.....	300.00	
Lufkin Circuit—W. T. Stokes.....	200.00	
Marshall—R. T. Pynes.....	200.00	
Noonday and Wesley—W. C. Mann.....	200.00	
LaPorte—C. A. Perkins.....	200.00	
Deadwood & Bethel:		
L. V. Maund	\$348.75	
J. A. Lanning.....	116.25	465.00
		<u> </u>
Ore City—W. C. Mann	\$45.00	
J. M. Backer.....	45.00	90.00
		<u> </u>
Alvin—E. A. Powell.....	160.00	
Sabine Circuit—B. R. Spraggins.....	160.00	
Woodville—J. S. Denney	100.00	
Texas City—E. W. Potts.....	\$50.00	
C. H. Ragsdale....	50.00	100.00
		<u> </u>
	\$3105.00	
Balance on hand.....	11.67	3116.67

LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT.

Funds received from Philadelphia.....\$5575.00

Expended as follows:

Jennings—F. J. Ensign..... \$280.00

Ebenezer—W. B. Hebert..... 200.00

Sweet Lake—W. B. Hebert..... 300.00

Dist. Supt.:

B. B. Corbin\$350.00

W. B. Van Valkenburgh.. 350.00 700.00

Kinder—C. F. Elliott..... 200.00

Shamrock & Weaver—R. G. Swanson..... 250.00

Elton and Basile:

Rev. Van Valkenburgh.....\$258.75

Luther Lyons 86.25 345.00

Evangeline Prep. School..... 2200.00

New Orleans—A. Palmisano..... 1100.00 5575.00

RIO GRANDE DISTRICT.

Funds received from Philadelphia.....\$2985.00

Expended as follows:

District Supt.—S. J. Manning..... \$385.00

El Jardine and Southpoint:

S. J. Manning.....\$75.00

H. H. E. Pohl..... 6.25

R. F. Flanken243.75 325.00

Lyford—L. E. Gower 500.00

Rangerville—H. H. E. Pohl..... 100.00

Sebastian—L. E. Gower..... 175.00

San Juan—S. J. Manning..... 500.00

Conference Evangelist—L. E. Gower... 1000.00 2985.00

COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION.

Realizing the growing needs for adequate church equipment in our land and noting the evident inability of any one denomination to cover the field, we recommend the action of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension which states that: "In communities where the Methodist Episcopal Church has the sole responsibility, there the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension should render preferred aid and co-operate in adequately caring for the work."

"We urge all our people to consider, in the organization and maintenance of churches, the interests of the Kingdom of God above separate denominational interests."

We request the Conference to appoint a committee—perhaps the Conference Board of Home Missions and Church Extension—to make a list of the churches which may be in overchurched communities and to bring in some plan by which non-selfsupporting and competing churches in overchurched communities may be reduced and arrange with competing churches for each denomination to assume full responsibility in distinct and separate fields.

We commend the work of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension in this Conference and call upon the churches to meet their fullest World Service obligation in order that the work of Home Missions and Church Extension may be properly done in the fields of our greatest responsibility.

H. C. LEONARD.

F. J. ENSIGN.

A. PALMISANO.

ANNUAL REPORT OF PORT ARTHUR COLLEGE.

To Gulf Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, assembled at Lake Charles, Louisiana.

It is, indeed, a pleasure to report that Port Arthur College has had a most successful year. Since the last Conference 458 day students have been enrolled, 199 night students, making a total of 657 for the year. 164 different cities from more than 10 states are represented in this year's enrollment.

We are pleased to report that our student body consists of practically high school graduates. Discipline has been the very best. It has been necessary to suspend only 2 students during the entire year. The girls at the dormitory have been ladylike in every respect and we should be proud of the personnel of our student body.

Our Employment Department has been unable to meet the demands for our graduates. With very few exceptions each graduate has been placed in a very satisfactory position and with no exceptions all have made good. Many of them accepting positions requiring experienced office help. Our Employment Report shows the placing of our graduates in many towns and cities far distant from Port Arthur which naturally gives Port Arthur College a broader publicity and more extended territory from which we may expect patronage in the future.

We have added the courses of Telegraphy, Station Work and Show Card Lettering. These new departments are enabling us to enroll additional young people who would not otherwise attend Port Arthur College, many of them taking combined courses. The average time of completing the course has lessened one-third.

The teachers in the respective departments are doing excellent work. The success of our school is a result of the untiring efforts of each of them. They are always working to the best interest of the school, putting forth continued effort to make a greater and better Port Arthur College. The organization is working in perfect harmony.

The Auditor's Annual Report shows a rapid improve-

ment in the financial condition of the institution. These results, as shown in the report, have been brought about by the practice of close economy. Several reductions have been made in overhead expense, and at the same time, our receipts for tuition, books and supplies and dormitory have been increased more than 50%. This placed the institution on a sound financial basis, receipts being in excess of expenditures for the year.

Many improvements must be made in the future. These are absolutely necessary. We hope to, within the next year, improve our main building to a greater extent than we have just improved our dormitory. We have just spent practically \$2000.00 in repainting and repairing our dormitory, which is now in first-class condition.

We ask that a visiting committee be appointed by the Conference, so that the Conference may be informed as to the condition of the school, its progress, etc. We understand from our district superintendent, Dr. C. R. Robinson, that this is customary.

At the regular annual meeting of the Port Arthur College Trustees, held June 9th, 1925 in the office of the college, the following trustees were elected to serve for a period of three years, subject to the approval of the Gulf Conference and we request that you take action thereon: Dr. A. W. Harris, A. Goldberg, H. Walton, H. Henderson, W. E. Blackstock, G. H. Eubank and P. LaGrone.

In conclusion, we want to assure the Gulf Conference that with the proper management, co-operation of the Board of Trustees and with the present assistance and influence of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Port Arthur College should, within a short time, be one of the largest and best schools of its kind in the country and we trust, one that will be a credit to all concerned.

Respectfully submitted,

A. B. CHENIER, *President*.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF EVANGELINE COLLEGE.

After five and a half years of service among the Evangeline people of Basile, the school building burned to the ground in February. Only one day was lost, and the school was continued in the two Methodist churches of the town.

The trustees put on a campaign to raise money for a new building as soon as they could make their plans. The campaign was carried to a remarkable success under the leadership of Dr. Louis M. Potts, and on the last day of the drive, July 15th, the campaign committee reported pledges of over \$53,000. \$33,000 of this was for building and \$20,000 for endowment. But this does not record all. During the campaign the Chamber of Commerce of Opelousas made an offer to the Board of Trustees if they would rebuild there. The offer was for thirty acres of land and \$20,000. This has not all been pledged yet, but the outlook is good.

At the trustees' meeting July 15th, president Hervey presented his resignation. Rev. C. W. Rodgers was elected in his place. When president Hervey came to Evangeline it had no credit and was badly in debt. It had no established educational standard. When Dr. Hervey left, it was an accredited high school, had a splendid financial credit, and was out of debt, and had enrolled 84 students.

The Chamber of Commerce of Opelousas asked that we bring the school up to the standard of a junior college as soon as possible. Toward that end we have a junior college class this year. It will be impossible to bring it up to a standard junior college in a short time, but we are laying foundations so that we will make no mistakes in our work.

Our greatest effort now is to get accepted as one of the institutions under the care of our Board of Education. We hope that this time will not be far distant. The quicker this is done the brighter will be the outlook for the school.

In order to make it in accord with the desire of Opelousas the name has been changed from a Preparatory School to Evangeline College. It is not a real college, but is more

than a high school, and plans to be up to junior grade as soon as possible.

We have a harmonious and consecrated faculty, each one with a college degree in a fully accredited Methodist college, and with the missionary spirit that must be had in an institution like ours.

The Evangeline Home under the supervision of the Woman's Home Missionary Society is doing a fine work, and fills an exceedingly important field. Seventeen girls are now in the Home, and fully half are being taken care of free of charge by the Society. It is a dormitory, an orphan's home and a real home combined. If it were not for this right hand of the school our attendance would be very slim indeed this year. Mrs. Florence M. Landon is the accomplished matron.

Most respectfully submitted,

C. W. RODGERS, *President.*

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

We rejoice over the increased interest in the Missionary work in our Conference, while it increases our labors, we realize that even in the multiplicity of work our duties do not conflict and as we received the wonderful message brought to us all through the Conference session we were strengthened with the reassurance of the Master, "Lo I am with you alway." We were greatly inspired by the presence of Miss Winnie Gabrielson who has labored seventeen years in India; and the wonderfully stirring descriptions of her work made us realize the privilege as well as the great responsibility of having a part in God's great plan of saving the world.

We take this opportunity of thanking the pastors for their hearty co-operation in making our work possible in each charge.

The following officers were chosen: Treasurer, Mrs. E. A. Briggles, 1022 Blanco Road, San Antonio, Texas; Corresponding Secretary, Houston District, Mrs. C. R. Robin-

son, Port Arthur, Texas; Corresponding Secretary, Lake Charles District, Mrs. T. J. Shrode, Litcher, La.; Corresponding Secretary, Rio Grande Valley District, Mrs. S. J. Manning, San Juan, Texas.

WOMAN'S HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Woman's Home Missionary Society has for its special field the work in the home land.

The aims for this year are: One-twelfth of our pledge sent to our Conference Treasurer monthly; mite box for every member and a thank offering from each Society.

The following officers were chosen: President, Mrs. H. G. Patterson, Fenton, La.; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. E. C. Willard, Welsh, La.; Treasurer, Mrs. H. C. Leonard, 1009 Harvard St., Houston, Texas; Young People's Secretary, Mrs. A. B. Chenier, Port Arthur, Texas; Children's Secretary, Mrs. J. R. Miles, Lake Charles, La.; Supply Secretary, Mrs. S. J. Manning, San Juan, Texas; Mite Box Secretary, Mrs. D. E. Sampson, 222 G. Street., San Antonio, Texas; Thank Offering Secretary, Mrs. C. W. Rodgers, Opelousas, La.

RESOLUTIONS.

Again the Gulf Conference has been delightfully entertained by the Simpson Methodist Episcopal Church of Lake Charles. We express special appreciation to Brother Faulk and the ladies of the church who served us so splendidly in the dining hall. We also express our thanks to the homes in which we have been so royally entertained.

We are indebted to the Calcasieu National Bank for its many courtesies in the care of the Conference Invested Funds.

We appreciate the full reports of our Conference published in the Lake Charles American-Press and carried in the dispatches of the Associated Press.

We have been favored by the presence and addresses of

Rev. Bert E. Smith, D. D., Rev. B. M. Powell, D. D., Rev. Luther E. Lovejoy, D. D., and Rev. J. B. Crippen, D. D., and Rev. Howard A. Musser; also Miss Grace Bilcox and Miss Winnie Gabrielson.

We note the conscientious and hard work of our Conference officials and their assistants.

Our presiding bishop, Bishop E. G. Richardson of Atlanta, has presided with brotherly efficiency and we shall long remember his deeply devotional talks. He is leaving the influence of a brother beloved and we would be happy to welcome him to this Conference again.

E. A. POWELL,
H. C. LEONARD.

REPORT OF BOARD OF STEWARDS

From Permanent Fund.....	\$ 99.41
From Methodist Book Concern.....	608.00
From Chartered Fund.....	40.00
From Board of Pensions and Relief.....	800.00
From Conference Collections.....	1581.00
Balance from last year.....	106.20
Total.....	\$3234.61

DISBURSEMENTS.

G. L. Harper	(5)	\$ 230.00
J. W. Lively	(13)	300.00
F. W. Loy	(42)	504.00
T. J. Shrode	(26)	312.00
W. T. Stokes	(27)	324.00
S. H. Yockey	(18)	325.00
Belle Chaney		100.00
Mrs. E. A. Ferguson		150.00
Mrs. N. H. Oliver		350.00
Mrs. N. L. Sayers		72.00
Mrs. F. D. Van Valkenburgh		200.00
Mrs. J. Woodson		300.00
Mrs. W. F. Hamner		30.00
Total.....		3197.00
Balance on hand.....		37.61

Numbers in brackets represent years of service.

Board recommends that \$2700.00 be apportioned to the charges this year for this fund.

R. L. WELDON, *President.*

L. E. GOWER, *Secretary.*

PLAN OF CONFERENCE EXAMINATIONS

CONFERENCE STUDIES FOR TRAVELING PREACHERS

As Prescribed by the Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1924, Appendix, ¶ 620

§1. DIRECTIONS FOR STUDENTS AND EXAMINERS.

Special attention is called to the "Directions and Helps" as listed in the Course of Study for Traveling Preachers. For each subject in these courses there is a separate pamphlet giving the student the necessary directions for his work and help in his study. They indicate also the written work which must be done in connection with each subject, including the "Collateral Reading and Study." This written work is a part of the required course equally with any of the books to be studied. These pamphlets are bound together in one volume for each year listed as the "Directions and Helps." This volume is to be ordered by the student from the Book Concern with his other books.

Conference examiners must have these "Directions and Helps" in order to carry on their work. At the beginning of each quadrennium a set of these is furnished to each registrar for free distribution to the examiners. It is the duty of the registrar to forward to each examiner the pamphlets which bear upon the books assigned to the latter. If extra supplies are needed later, they must be purchased by the Conference Board from the Book Concern. The Commission does not handle the Directions and Helps. An "Examiner's Handbook" containing explanations and suggestions for examiners will also be furnished free to each examiner. The new edition for the quadrennium will be distributed through the registrars as soon as issued.

§2. EXAMINATION FOR ADMISSION ON TRIAL.

1. Doctrines and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church for 1924, with special Reference to the Articles of Religion. (For a good commentary on these, see Wheeler, Twenty-five Articles of Religion of the Methodist Episcopal Church).....
W. R. Ward
2. American History. James and Sanford.....W. E. Blackstock.
3. Life of John Wesley. Winchester.....R. L. Weldon
4. (a) Plain Account of Christian Perfection. Wesley.....
C. W. Rodgers
(b) Selections from the Writings of John Wesley (new edition). Welch.....C. W. Rodgers

5. A Bible Biography. The candidate shall be prepared to write a paper of not less than one thousand words upon one of the following subjects, using only the materials found in the Bible: The Life of Moses, the Life of David, the Life of Jesus as recorded by Mark, the Life of Paul as given in Acts. The subject to be written upon will be assigned at the time of the examination.....F. J. Ensign
6. A written sermon.....W. R. Ward
7. Directions and Helps for the Examination for Admission (see under §1).....B. B. Corbin
All papers submitted by the candidate shall be examined with reference to the use of English and the character of this work shall be taken into account in determining the grade in each subject; this rule shall apply throughout the course.

§3. COURSE OF STUDY FOR FIRST YEAR.

1. New Testament History. Rall.....H. K. Faulk
2. Evangelism. Hannan.....R. L. Weldon
3. The Work of Preaching. Hoyt.....W. R. Ward
4. The Art of Writing English. Brown and Barnes.....C. W. Rodgers
5. Human Behavior. Colvin and Bagley.....H. C. Leonard
6. Directions and Helps for the First Year (see under §1).....B. B. Corbin

Collateral Reading and Study:

1. Jesus in the Experience of Men. Glover.....R. L. Weldon
2. The Pastor-Preacher. Quayle.....W. R. Ward
3. Citizenship and Moral Reform. Langdale.....H. K. Faulk
4. Steps in the Development of American Democracy. McLaughlin.....W. E. Blackstock
5. Francis Asbury. Tipple.....H. C. Leonard
6. Wesley's Sermons. (Vol. I.) Cloth.....C. W. Rodgers
7. Special Homiletical Work (see Homiletical Directions in Directions and Helps).....F. J. Ensign

§4. COURSE OF STUDY FOR SECOND YEAR.

1. Dictionary of the Bible (One Vol. Edition). Hastings.....W. R. Ward
2. History of the Christian Church. Walker (Omitting pages 1-41).....R. L. Weldon
3. (a) The Pupil and the Teacher. Weigle.....H. C. Leonard
(b) The Graded Sunday School in Principle and Practice. Meyer.....H. C. Leonard
4. The Pastoral Office. Beebe.....C. W. Rodgers
5. Directions and Helps for the Second Year (see under §1).....B. B. Corbin

Collateral Reading and Study:

1. The Christian View of the Old Testament. Eiselen
..... H. C. Leonard
2. The Organization and Administration of Religious Education.
Stout..... W. E. Blackstock
3. (a) The Church in the City. Leete..... R. L. Weldon
(b) The Rural Church Serving the Community. Earp
..... R. L. Weldon
4. History of Methodism (Vol. I). Stevens..... W. R. Ward
5. Life of Luther. McGiffert..... H. K. Faulk
6. Wesley's Sermons. (Vol. II.) Cloth..... C. W. Rodgers
7. Special Homiletical Work (see Homiletical Directions in Di-
rections and Helps)..... F. J. Ensign

§5. COURSE OF STUDY FOR THIRD YEAR.

1. Beacon Lights of Prophecy. Knudson..... H. K. Faulk
2. Foundations of Christian Belief. Strickland..... W. R. Ward
3. The Church and Industrial Reconstruction. Federal Council
of Churches..... F. J. Ensign
4. Religions of Mankind. Soper..... R. L. Weldon
5. Neely's Parliamentary Practice..... C. W. Rodgers
6. Directions and Helps for the Third Year (see under §1)
..... B. B. Corbin

Collateral Reading and Study:

1. Studies in Christianity. Bowne..... W. E. Blackstock
2. Jesus Christ and the Social Question. Peabody..... H. C. Leonard
3. History of Methodism (Vol. II). Stevens..... W. R. Ward
4. Life of Phillips Brooks (briefer edition). Allen..... H. K. Faulk
5. The Art of Preaching. Brown..... C. W. Rodgers
6. Modern Premillennialism and the Christian Hope. Rall
..... R. L. Weldon
7. The Methodist Review..... H. C. Leonard
8. Special Homiletical Work (see Homiletical Directions in
Directions and Helps)..... F. J. Ensign

§6. COURSE OF STUDY FOR FOURTH YEAR.

1. Paul and His Epistles. Hayes..... W. R. Ward
2. System of Christian Doctrine. Sheldon. (Except Part I and
Appendix)..... H. K. Faulk
3. Freedom and Christian Conduct. Haas..... W. E. Blackstock
4. The Book of Isaiah (Vol. I-II).—Expositor's Bible. Smith.
..... F. J. Ensign
5. Directions and Helps for the Fourth Year (see under §1)
..... B. B. Corbin

Collateral Reading and Study:

1. James W. Bashford. Grose.....H. C. Leonard
2. Outline of Christian Theology. Clarke.....C. W. Rodgers
3. Good Ministers of Jesus Christ. McDowell.....H. K. Faulk
4. Church Cooperation in Community Life. Vogt.....R. L. Weldon
5. History of Methodism (Vol. III). Stevens.....W. R. Ward
6. The Methodist Review.....W. E. Blackstock
7. Special Homiletical Work (see Homiletical Directions in Directions and Helps).....F. J. Ensign

REGULATIONS.

1. No less than ten questions for examination in each study shall be prepared by each examiner, and as many copies of these questions as the Chairman shall need shall be sent to him two weeks before the date of examination.

2. All examinations shall be in writing and in the presence of witnesses if practicable.

3. Examination papers shall be graded on the basis of subject matter, use of English and assignment of written work.

4. The examination shall be graded on the scale of 100, and 70 per cent is the minimum passing grade.

5. Each examiner shall report all grades promptly to the Registrar.

6. Each examiner shall give instruction by correspondence, and see that the assignments of written work, both of the regular text books and of the collateral books be done satisfactorily.

7. No equivalent for any subject in the course of study will be accepted, except on certificate signed by the President or Registrar of the College where subject was taken, and stating time when subject was pursued.

8. The wise student will get in touch at once with his examiner.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

GULF MISSION

Year	Time	Place	Bishop	Secretary
1893	Jan. 19	Jennings, La.....	E. C. Andrews..	C. K. Woodson
1894	Jan. 25	Lake Charles, La.....	J. M. Walden...	C. K. Woodson
1895	Jan. 24	Crowley, La.....	Thos. Bowman..	C. K. Woodson
1896	Jan. 23	Jennings, La.....	J. N. Fitzgerald.	C. K. Woodson

GULF MISSION CONFERENCE

Year	Time	Place	Bishop	Secretary
1897	Jan. 21	Jennings, La.....	J. M. Walden....	C. K. Woodson
1898	Feb. 3	Crowley, La.....	W. X. Ninde....	C. K. Woodson
1899	Feb. 2	Lake Charles, La.....	S. M. Merrill....	C. K. Woodson
1900	Feb. 1	Marshall, Tex.....	I. W. Joce.....	L. W. Elkins
1901	Jan. 17	Jennings, La.....	H. W. Warren....	C. W. Campbell
1902	Jan. 30	Lake Charles, La.....	C. D. Foss.....	C. W. Campbell
1903	Feb. 3	Port Arthur, Tex.....	W. F. Mallalieu.	C. C. Morris

GULF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Year	Time	Place	Bishop	Secretary
1904	Feb. 4	Hughes Springs, Tex.....	W. F. Mallalieu.	J. Paul
1905	Feb. 2	Gloster, Miss.....	H. Spellmeyer...	F. F. Fitch
1905	Dec. 1	Welsh, La.....	L. B. Wilson....	W. E. Harrison
1906	Nov. 15	Marshall, Tex.....	L. B. Wilson....	J. R. Basket
1907	Dec. 16	Jennings, La.....	William Burt....	J. R. Basket
1908	Dec. 16	Lake Charles, La.....	W. A. Quayle....	J. R. Basket
1909	Dec. 16	Port Arthur, Tex.....	T. B. Neely....	J. R. Basket
1910	Dec. 15	Welsh, La.....	T. B. Neely....	H. H. McCain
1911	Dec. 15	Marshall, Tex.....	T. B. Neely....	H. H. McCain
1912	Dec. 19	Port Arthur, Tex.....	W. P. Thirkield.	H. H. McCain
1913	Dec. 4	Woodville, Tex.....	W. P. Thirkield.	H. H. McCain
1914	Dec. 2	Jennings, La.....	W. P. Thirkield.	J. R. Basket
1915	Dec. 7	Port Arthur, Tex.....	W. P. Thirkield.	J. R. Basket
1916	Dec. 7	DeRidder, La.....	W. O. Shepard..	J. W. Hervey
1917	Nov. 29	Hughes Springs, Tex.....	W. P. Thirkield.	J. W. Hervey
1918	Nov. 27	Houston, Tex.....	Chas. B. Mitchell	H. C. Leonard
1919	Nov. 26	Lake Charles, La.....	W. P. Thirkield.	H. C. Leonard
1920	Dec. 8	Houston, Tex.....	E. L. Waldorf...	H. C. Leonard
1921	Dec. 7	Port Arthur, Tex.....	E. L. Waldorf...	H. C. Leonard
1922	Dec. 13	San Antonio, Tex.....	E. L. Waldorf...	H. C. Leonard
1923	Dec. 12	Port Arthur, Tex.....	E. L. Waldorf...	H. C. Leonard
1924	Dec. 3	Welsh, La.....	E. L. Waldorf...	H. C. Leonard
1925	Dec. 2	Lake Charles, La.....	E. G. Richardson.	H. C. Leonard

IN MEMORIAM

WILLIAM FREDERICK HAMNER

One by one the years go from us and we spend our lives as a tale is told. Man is born into the world through a physical, family, relationship and from that assumes the associations of friendship, citizenship and social brotherhood. We are privileged to be members of one of the sweetest of all the relations of human existence in the fellowship of Christian ministers. With a common love for God and His Son Jesus; with a common ideal for our brother manhood, and a common high hope for the family of men, we are drawn together into mutual experiences that make us feel closely akin. But these at best are only enjoyed for the space of a few years and we pass on to try the realities of the beyond. We meet this afternoon as the living members of the Gulf Conference to memorialize one of our members who has during this last year laid down this life and put on the next. And, also, to reckon with what devotion and consecration the fortunes of our Conference have been purchased by all the men who in times past have labored here and having finished their labors have been called home.

Wm. Frederick Hamner was born Aug. 26th, 1858 in Collierville, Tenn. He was educated for the practice of law, being a graduate of the University of Mississippi. He had practiced law for four years when he was converted and entered the Christian ministry. He was honored with the degree of D. D. by Randolph College, Macon, Ga. He was married in 1886 to Miss Emma Lee of Brownsville, Tenn., and the couple became the parents of eleven children, five of whom are still living. This union was broken on Feb. 4th, 1914, when Mrs. Hamner was called home. Dr. Hamner took a second wife Jan. 1st, 1920, when Miss Martha Iler was joined with him and he to her by matrimony. Two children were born to this marriage both of whom are living.

Dr. Hamner preached for several years in the vicinity of Dallas and San Antonio; five years at Pharr, Texas, and was pastor of a Community Church in Alamo when he died, August 23rd, 1925, lacking only three days being sixty-eight years of age. The funeral service was held from the Community Church at Alamo. The attendance at the service was said to be the largest that ever had gathered at Alamo, which speaks of the esteem with which our brother was regarded. The sympathy of the Conference is extended to his sorrowing loved ones.

ROLL OF OUR HONORED DEAD

"The rest from their labors and
their works do follow them."

Members of the Conference

WALTER ZIMMERMAN

IRA N. PARDEE

P. C. CHANEY

WILLIAM F. BOLTON

JOHN T. JAMES

H. G. BREED

EDGAR A. FERGUSON

THOMAS WILSON

CYRUS A. KING

N. H. OLIVER

F. D. VAN VALKENBURGH

W. R. NEWTON

JULIAN WOODSON

N. L. SAYERS

W. F. HAMNER

MINUTES OF THE LAY CONFERENCE
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Lake Charles, La., December 5th, 1925.

Meeting called to order and Mr. Harry Patterson unanimously elected Chairman, Mr. G. M. King, Secretary.

Committee on Credentials appointed by the Chairman consisted of Mrs. G. M. King, Jr., and this committee reported Nineteen (19) delegates present with proper credentials.

The first matter of business presented was the Constitutional Amendment on unification, vote being called for resulted in 19 yeas and no nays. After considerable discussion vote was called for on the amendment to the constitution referring to Lay representation in the Annual Conference. Vote being called for resulted in 18 yeas and one nay.

The following resolution was presented by Rev. Clifford T. Nunn and unanimously carried:

“Lake Charles, La., December 4th, 1925.
Lay Conference to the Annual Gulf Conference.
Be it Resolved:

That this body go on record to be heartily in accord with all actions taken by the Annual Gulf Conference, and that this body shall work for a feeling of good will and cooperation between the Lay and Ministerial Conferences.

That this resolution shall be incorporated in the minutes of this body and that the Secretary of this body be instructed to give a copy of this resolution to the Annual Gulf Conference.

CLIFFORD T. NUNN, *Committee.*”

There being no further business Conference was adjourned.

**STATISTICAL TABLES AND TREASURER'S
REPORT---GULF CONFERENCE----1925**

W. E. BLACKSTOCK, Statistician

C. W. RODGERS, Treasurer

SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICS, GULF CONFERENCE, 1925
HOUSTON DISTRICT

NAMES OF CHARGES OR CHURCHES	Schools on Charge	Schools using Graded Lessons	Officers & Teachers	PUPILS ENROLLED								Enr. all depts. inc. Cdlr. Roll, Home Dept. Offs. Teachs. & Pupils	Avrg. Attendance	Pupils, inc. Home dept. who are Ch. Membs. or Prep. Members	Accessions to Church from Sunday School	Paid by S. S. to World Service	Paid for Sunday School Supplies	
				Cradle Roll	Beginners	Primary	Junior	Intermediate	Senior	Young People	Adults							Home Dept.
Alvin	3	1	39	25	30	27	35	45	25	...	45	27	288	150	188	30	50	153
Collins Memorial (Houston)	1	1	61	64	47	82	112	18	11	66	66	15	568	283	152	43	277	988
Deadwood & Bethel	2	...	16	...	30	31	30	20	35	25	29	...	200	125	200	40	...	160
Hughes Springs	1	1	8	5	10	8	7	8	...	20	10	12	88	45	65	...	23	76
Jefferson & Atlanta	1	1	6	3	2	3	4	3	4	8	12	...	39	23	16	...	...	23
La Porte	1	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	118	76	...	...	117	93
Lufkin Circuit	1	...	10	1	3	10	12	15	25	15	19	...	110	30	80	...	...	20
Marshall	1	1	17	25	24	...	30	11	27	...	39	...	173	88	...	11	120	100
Noonday & Wesley	2	...	12	6	4	10	5	24	9	28	...	...	98	60	65	3	...	30
Polk Circuit .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Port Arthur	1	1	32	62	22	23	49	27	25	26	77	37	380	178	153	28	214	492
Rockhill & Shelbyville	2	...	17	...	...	20	20	10	30	20	20	...	120	80	60	1	...	50
Sabine Circuit	1	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	25	...	...	...	...
South Houston	1	1	11	15	6	8	10	8	17	8	16	...	88	33	18	2	24	79
San Antonio (Trinity)	1	1	32	22	50	30	37	29	20	9	33	17	279	170	111	...	190	273
Texas City	2	...	17	...	...	30	...	...	15	...	20	...	125	70	...	...	60	300
Woodville	2	...	10	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	20	...	65	50	...	2	...	40
Winnsboro & Ore City	2	...	11	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	24	...	95	77	...	9	...	...
Total.....	25	8	323	228	228	252	371	278	243	225	410	108	2859	1562	1108	176	1075	2877

LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT

Auburn & Gloster	1	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	32	...	...	12	18
Basile	1	1	4	3	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	11	8	...	...	12	39
Bayou Chene	2	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	132	60	...	...	...	17
DeQuincy	1	1	22	20	16	21	22	20	12	30	24	14	199	140	120	12	100	170
Ebenezer, Sweet Lake, Gueydon	3	...	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	163	96	...	...	51	105
Elton	1	...	11	17	17	9	5	5	12	13	22	...	111	75	...	...	...	65
Iowa	1	1	14	8	11	23	21	...	...	37	31	...	137	71	...	6	53	100
Jennings	1	1	23	10	12	16	10	12	14	37	20	23	177	99	91	...	62	170
Kinder	1	1	11	22	9	10	12	10	5	15	8	...	111	47	33	...	5	72
Lake Charles.....	1	1	30	40	12	23	33	10	20	15	60	52	285	115	150	7	75	145
Loranger	1	1	16	10	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	104	70	...	...	8	...
Lutcher	1	...	6	4	7	...	...	13	4	...	15	12	61	33	...	2	81	68
New Orleans (Italian Mission)	1	1	7	25	25	15	10	...	...	...	25	...	107	50	25	4	11	31
Raymond	1	...	11	...	...	...	6	...	...	12	10	...	32	23	...	...	...	22
Weaver	2	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	135	70	...	12	12	20
Welsh	1	1	38	35	25	23	42	41	15	16	58	20	313	168	200	25	43	312
Quitman	1	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75	55	...	...	10	20
Total.....	21	10	252	194	144	140	161	114	82	175	273	121	2213	1222	619	68	535	1374

RIO GRANDE VALLEY DISTRICT

Alamo .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
El Jardine & South Point.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lyford	1	...	11	11	4	5	3	6	6	9	20	...	64	35	34	8	50	44
Rangerville Circuit.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rio Hondo .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sebastian .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
San Juan	1	1	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	114	60	...	...	...	70
Total.....	2	1	25	11	4	5	3	6	6	9	20	...	178	95	34	8	50	114

EPWORTH LEAGUE STATISTICS, GULF CONFERENCE, 1925
HOUSTON DISTRICT

NAMES OF CHARGES OR CHURCHES	Senior League		Int. League		Junior League		Epworth Heralds Taken	Paid to Central Office	Paid to World Service
	Chapters	Members	Chapters	Members	Chapters	Members			
Alvin	1	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	.....
Collins Memorial (Houston).....	1	24	1	34	1	36	15	.....	.....
Deadwood & Bethel	2	50	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Hughes Springs.....	1	25	.....	.....	1	15	10	6	6
Jefferson & Atlanta .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
La Porte	1	25	.....	.....	.....	.....	18	.....	.....
Lufkin Circuit.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Marshall	1	44	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
Noonday & Wesley	1	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	.....	.....
Polk Circuit.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Port Arthur.....	1	25	.....	.....	1	26	3	.....	6
Rockhill & Shelbyville .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sabine Circuit.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
South Houston.....	1	16	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
San Antonio (Trinity).....	1	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	10
Texas City.....	1	25	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	5
Woodville .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Winnsboro & Ore City.....	1	60	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....
Total.....	13	341	1	34	3	77	75	6	67
Last year.....	12	379	1	12	4	107	91	25	95

LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT

Auburn & Gloster .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Basile .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bayou Chene .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
DeQuincy	1	50	.....	.....	1	40	3	.....	10
Ebenezer, Sweet Lake, Gueydon .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	24	.....	.....	.....
Elton .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Iowa	1	28	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....
Jennings	1	30	.....	.....	1	25	1	.....	.....
Kinder	1	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lake Charles.....	1	20	1	12	1	16	.....	.....	.....
Loranger .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lutcher .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	24	.....	.....	.....
New Orleans (Italian Mission)	1	41	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	4	.....
Raymond .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Weaver	1	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	6
Welsh	1	45	.....	.....	1	25	4	.....	.....
Total.....	8	256	1	12	6	154	15	7	16

RIO GRANDE VALLEY DISTRICT

Alamo .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
El Jardine & South Point.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lyford .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rangerville Circuit.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rio Hondo.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sebastian.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
San Juan.....	1	26	.....	.....	1	15	1	.....	.....

TREASURER'S REPORT, GULF CONFERENCE, 1925
HOUSTON DISTRICT

NAMES OF CHARGES OR CHURCHES	Disciplinary Benevolences				Benevolences		Other Cash Items				Grand Total Inc. Disc. & An. Conf. Benev. & Other Cash Items		
	On Apportionment	World Service	Children's Day Fund	Woman's Foreign Missionary Society	Woman's Home Missionary Society	Total Disciplinary Benevolences	Ed. Endow. Bldgs., Special Gifts for use within the Conference	Total Benev. Ordered by Annual Conf.	Sup. Dist. Supt. incl. House Rent & Ad- ministrative Exp.	Support of Bishops (Episcopal Fund)		Support of Conf. Claimants	General Conf. Expenses
Alvin	100			22	15	139	33	33	41	18	36	.....	307
Collins Memorial (Houston)	1469	27		298	93	1887	434	434	34	85	205	.....	2953
Deadwood & Bethel							20	20	43	12	10	.....	83
Hughes Springs	45					45	45	45	30	9	15	.....	144
Jefferson & Atlanta							25	25	13	3	3	.....	16
La Porte	200	6		25		231	275	275	33	22	40	4	605
Lufkin Circuit											1	.....	1
Marshall	250					250	80	80	150	30	60	.....	570
Noonday & Wesley	73					73	12	12	72	14	29	.....	200
Polk Circuit	2					2						.....	6
Port Arthur	1000	45	128		203	1376	60	60	350	60	150	10	2006
Rockhill & Shelbyville	16					16			16	3	4	.....	23
Sabine Circuit									15			.....	31
South Houston	28			63	20	111			26	6	13	.....	156
San Antonio (Trinity)	1234	25		140	95	1404	90	90	310	43	124	.....	2031
Texas City	110			51	15	176			100	20	20	.....	555
Woodville	28	1				29			83	8	12	.....	132
Winnboro & Ore City	1					1			19	4	8	32
Total	4556	104	725	441	5828	1049	1049	1049	1683	337	727	14	9877



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GULF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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TREASURER'S REPORT, GULF CONFERENCE, 1925
LAKE CHARLES DISTRICT

NAMES OF CHARGES OR CHURCHES	Disciplinary Benevolences				Benevolences		Other Cash Items				Grand Total Inc. Disc. & An. Conf. Benev. & Other Cash Items		
	World Service		Children's Day Fund	Woman's Foreign Missionary Society	Woman's Home Missionary Society	Total Disciplinary Benevolences	Benevolences		Sup. Dist. Supt. Incl. House Rent & Ad- ministrative Exp.	Support of Bishops (Episcopal Fund)		Support of Conf. Claimants	General Conf. Expenses
	On Apportionment	Specials; Annulities, Legacies, etc.					Hospitals & Homes Endowments, Bldgs., Special Gifts for use within the Conference	Special Gifts						Total Benev. Ordered by Annual Conf.
Auburn & Gloster	28					28	71		40	9	10	17	38
Basile	50	4				54			36	4	7		172
Bayou Chene	17					17			20	4	10		51
DeQuincy	427		18		33	536	500	7	240	48	120		1451
Ebenezer, Sweet Lake, Gueydon	264		7			264	99		32	18	85		372
Elton	37		3			44	44		30	14	35		222
Iowa	156		3		2	161	44		54	12	30		301
Jennings	261		9			270	220		140	28	70		745
Kinder	79					79	87		45	12	30		253
Lake Charles	218	585			5	88			300	67	135	5	1403
Loranger	98				10	10	118	50	35	13	30		246
Luther	131			11	48		190	122	60	16	90		476
New Orleans (Italian Mission)	55	15				70	15		30				113
Raymond	10					10	50						62
Weaver	20					20			56		5		81
Welsh	1200			10	99	295	1604	1727	330	74	165		3300
Quitman	30					30			40				70
Total.....	3081	604	58	199	466	4408	2985	7	1490	315	795	5	10005

TREASURER'S REPORT, GULF CONFERENCE, 1925
RIO GRANDE VALLEY DISTRICT

NAMES OF CHARGES OR CHURCHES	Disciplinary Benevolences			Benevolences		Cash Items				Grand Total Inc. Disc. & An. Conf. Benev. & Other Cash Items
	On World Service	Children's Day Fund	Woman's Foreign Missionary Society	Total Disciplinary Benevolences	Ed. Endow., Bldgs., Special Gifts for use within the Conference	Total Benev. Ordered by Annual Conf.	Sup. Dist. Supt. incl. House Rent & Ad- ministrative Exp.	Support of Bishops (Episcopal Fund)	Support of Conf. Claimants	
Alamo .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	3	4
El Jardine & South Point.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	24	242
Lyford	107	3	.....	110	18	18	50	1	3	31
Rangerville Circuit.....	15	.....	.....	15	2	2	10	.....	.....	.....
Rio Hondo.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sebastian.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
San Juan.....	75	5	1	81	30	30	60	10	29	210
Total.....	197	8	1	205	50	50	120	22	59	457